

**PRESS RELEASE**

## ***From 2021: Hamburg becomes home port for Hurtigruten expedition ship***

Hamburg, June 12th 2020 - From January 2021 Hamburg will be the home port for the expedition ship "MS Otto Sverdrup" of the Norwegian shipping company Hurtigruten. Cruise passengers can then go on a Norwegian excursion directly from Hamburg all year round. Every two weeks, the expedition sea voyages lead along the Norwegian coast in the footsteps of the postal ship route, the departure and arrival port of the trips is Hamburg. For the German guests there is no need to travel to Bergen, the actual starting point of the Hurtigruten.

Sacha Rougier, Managing Director of Cruise Gate Hamburg GmbH: "We are very pleased to welcome Hurtigruten and MS Otto Sverdrup to Hamburg on a regular basis from next year. This is a strong signal in this challenging time."

Rougier also sees the positioning of the expedition ship as another success on Hamburg's path to sustainable cruise tourism. Hurtigruten is considered a pioneer in environmentally friendly expedition cruises. MS Otto Sverdrup was completely modernized in early 2020 and upgraded with low-emission engines that run on a combination of bio-diesel and normal diesel. A conversion to hybrid drive is planned for the next shipyard stay in 2022. Sacha Rougier explains: "Sustainability has been an important factor in expanding the cruise in Hamburg for years. The city has set itself the goal to become "No. 1 sustainable cruise hub in Northern Europe". With Hurtigruten and the stationing of MS Otto Sverdrup, we are getting a step closer to this goal."

A total of 30 calls for the expedition ship MS Otto Sverdrup are planned between January 26, 2021 and March 8, 2022 from Hamburg.

### **About Cruise Gate Hamburg GmbH**

Cruise Gate Hamburg GmbH is a subsidiary wholly owned by Hamburg Port Authority AöR. As the operator of Hamburg's cruise centres Altona, HafenCity, Steinwerder and Baakenhöft, CGH is the single point of contact for all cruise liner companies. CGH strives to provide transparent "one-stop services to the cruise shipping industry" at all of Hamburg's cruise terminals.

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